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INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Belgium/France/Spain

DATE: 25X1A

INFO. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Passage from Belgium to France of Spaniards

DISY. 8 August 1947

PAGES 25X1A

SUPPLEMENT [REDACTED] (attached)

ORIGIN

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- F-2 1. As in the past, the clandestine passage in Belgium of Spanish groups rejoining the Republican front in France is effected with the aid of the "Amicales" of former members of the International Brigades.
2. A close collaboration exists between the associations of Holland, Belgium, and France for expediting the passage of recruits headed for the south of France.
- F-3 3. One of the connecting points of this line is situated at Liege. Here the "Agrupacion Republicana Espanola de Lieja," grouping the former combatants of Spain under the presidency of Victoriano Orriols, is reportedly active. Orriols, born at Mahon, Spain, on 10 February 1894, is a garagist. He has at his disposition a number of automobiles, and these are also destined to be used in the cause.

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Comment: The use of the word "recruits" in paragraph 2 above is not clear. It was reported prior to February 1947 that a Belgian association of veterans of the International Brigades in the Spanish Civil War facilitated the passage of Spanish refugees into France and that Liege was one of the connecting points. Attached is a reproduction of SSU report [REDACTED] Communist Organizations in Holland and Belgium for Aid to Spanish Refugees, which contains information on the routes taken by such Spaniards and organizations involved in expediting their passage, as of September 1946.

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